

BARRICADA

REVOLUTIONARY LEFTIST PUBLICATION OF THE BARRICADA COLLECTIVE

DECEMBER 2000

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FREE TO PRISONERS

INSIDE:

SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS

YUGOSLAVIA

TABD PROTESTS IN OHIO

ANTIFA BATTLES IN MILAN

CUBA

AND MORE...



**THIS NEW YEAR, LETS TOAST...
TO ANOTHER YEAR OF CLASS WAR**

BARRICADA 2, DECEMBER 2000

"La Barricada Cierra la Calle, Pero Abre el Camino"

BARRICADA COLLECTIVE STATEMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Barricada is a non-partisan, non-hierarchical collective within the radical leftist spectrum with the principle aim of producing and distributing revolutionary propaganda and news.

We work to build class-consciousness through the distribution of radical left wing culture and ideas as an alternative to the state and the capitalist system. To this end we distribute pamphlets, flyers, newsletters, and other forms of propaganda, as well as participating in initiatives which are in line with our general ideas and beliefs.

The Barricada collective opposes electoral politics, the party system, and representative democracy, because we see them as cheapening true democracy and serving to take power and initiative away from the hands of people. We are also opposed to reformist alternatives aimed at making superficial changes to what we view as an inherently flawed system.

We are opposed to nationalism and other artificial divisions of the working class. However, we are also anti-imperialists and as such support oppressed peoples in their struggles of national liberation providing that they maintain a revolutionary leftist character. At the same time we bear in mind that this is not our ideal situation, as our wish is not to see the emergence of more states and borders but instead a stateless, classless society based on the principals of mutual aid, direct democracy, freely federated community structures, and workers self-management.

To this end we justify and encourage the pursuit of the class war, including but not limited to, direct action, workplace sabotage, property damage, mass confrontation, and civil disobedience. We believe that the issue of revolutionary violence should be viewed from a tactical standpoint rather than an ideological one. This said, we believe that the creation of a "culture of resistance," where the state and all other enemies of the working class are at no time safe, is an essential aspect of any social movement, serving to empower people as well as creating an atmosphere ideal for class warfare.

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NEWS

-Page 3: Demonstrations Against the TABD in Cincinnati

-Page 4: Street Battles in Milan: Cops and Nazis Hand in Hand

-Page 5: Palestine Solidarity Demonstration in Oslo

-Page 5: Greek Anarchists Continue the Struggle

-Page 6: Thousands Take to the Streets Against the SOA

COMMENTARY

-Page 8: Yugoslavia After Milosevic...What Next?

-Page 10: Beyond the Global Days of Action Against Capitalism

-Page 11: Embargo? What Cuban Embargo? Orwellian Policy Making in America

POLITICAL PRISONERS

-PAGE 12: Solidarity with Thomas Meyer Falk and GRAPO militants

RADICAL CULTURE

-Page 13: Howard Zinn's Marx in Soho

-Page 14: The Adjusters...Music for the Revolution

MOBILIZATION

-Page 15: A Call For an Organized Revolutionary Presence in Washington at the Presidential Inauguration, January 20, 2001

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NEWS AND REPORTS



NO BUSINESS AS USUAL FOR TRANS-ATLANTIC BUSINESS DIALOG (TABD)

CINCINNATI, OH - In the latest round of anti-globalization protests which have shadowed nearly every high level meeting of the world's capitalist elite in the past year, activists from all over the mid-west came to Cincinnati in order to voice their opposition to the annual meetings of the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialog (TABD).

In November 1995, the Clinton administration helped form the Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD). In a meeting arranged by erstwhile Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, over 100 corporate executives from the US and EU convened in Seville, Spain to discuss issues of trade liberalization. The TABD has met every year since, and now includes of 150 corporate executives as well as major figures in the US and EU administrations. As top business CEO's and government leaders from Europe and the U.S. gathered in Cincinnati to discuss issues of eliminating transatlantic trade barriers, opening markets, and furthering the concentration of power into the hands of transnational corporations, over 1,000 protesters took to the streets in a number of energetic marches, teach-ins, disruptive actions, and running street battles with police.

On Thursday, November 16th, around 500 people attended an anti-TABD press conference and teach-in held on Fountain Square. Later that evening, over 100 protesters gathered outside of the Music Hall, where a special performance by Cincinnati's Symphony Orchestra was planned for the TABD delegates. Two individuals managed to gain access to the Music Hall, where they unfurled a large banner which read "End Corporate Rule", and were subsequently arrested and charged with criminal trespassing and disorderly conduct. Despite a few barricades that were kicked over, demonstrators eventually left peacefully, as over two hundred police on motorcycles, horseback,

and clad in riot gear cleared the scene.

Friday morning started off with a rally at Sawyer Point, where crowds of over 1,000 people gathered. At noon, demonstrators made their way through downtown in a permitted march that ended across the street from the Omni hotel where the TABD meetings were taking place.

As the permitted march ended, a group of 200-300 black bloc anarchists and other militant activists split off from the main march and made their way down 5th St. and Vine (between Fountain Sq. and the Omni). A number of people made use of the police barricades in order to establish a line across the intersection and keep the police at bay. As police began to assemble reinforcements around the barricades, people began to move eastward towards Sawyer Point. At 4th St. and Vine, a small scuffle broke out and police arrested two individuals and charged them with rioting. In an attempt to clear the intersection, riot police began to fire bean bag rounds and rubber bullets into the crowd. Tear gas was also deployed, as was pepper spray and other chemical irritants. A number of tear gas canisters were thrown back at the police lines, a few banks had their windows smashed in and were spraypainted with anti-capitalist slogans, and a number of trash cans were lit on fire and kicked into the streets by angered protesters. Eventually the police regained control over the streets, surrounding large groups of demonstrators and forcing people to disperse in groups of four. A few individuals were arrested, and instances of police violence were reported.

Later that evening, protesters regrouped down at Union Terminal, where TABD delegates were dining in opulence with Ohio's governor. Between 300-500 people marched in front of the terminal, and twice as

many police cordoned off the area. Once again, shotguns and riot gear were prominently on display, as were two large buses, clearly anticipating mass arrests. Despite the earlier confrontations, the Union Terminal protest ended without incident.

Police ensured that Saturday's activities wouldn't take place without provocation, forcing everyone who came to attend an afternoon rally in Fountain Square to pass through police checkpoint. Police were everywhere, holding groups of demonstrators behind barriers, searching them for weapons, and arresting a number of people for "jaywalking". Eventually, nearly 700 people managed to gather on the Square and an attempt was made to march through downtown. Police surrounded the march and made an order to disperse, declaring the gathering an "illegal assembly". Tear gas was deployed, and people retreated into smaller groups. After the main march and rally dissipated, protestors organized a second rally, along with members of the Black Urban Defense, in order to speak out against police brutality. This final action of the week had tremendous local significance, as allegations of homicide swirl around the Cincinnati Police Department after a young black man recently died in police custody. The plan was to march from the park up to the Hamilton County Justice Center. Of course, with the official TABD protests finished and the media spotlight no longer focused on Cincinnati, the police felt free to hand out harsh treatment with impunity. By the day's end, police arrested 47 protesters, bringing the three-day total to 53.

Mark, Sabate Anarchist Collective (NEFAC)

BARRICADA #2, DECEMBER 2000



NEWS AND REPORTS

STREET BATTLES IN MILAN: COPS AND NAZIS HAND IN HAND

The meeting of the Trilateral Commission -- a creature of the Rockefeller Association -- held in Milan last Saturday was the indirect source of a 3 hour street battle between Social Center activists on one side and police and neo-nazis on the other. Hundreds of teargas grenades, burned cars, 17 comrades arrested, 20 people wounded, and a large city block thrown completely into chaos by wild police attacks. All this to protect a couple of hundred neo-nazis of Forza Nuova trying to hold a demonstration against what they call the "Jewish globalization".

The nazis, coming from the whole of Northern Italy, gathered in the discotheque "De Sade" from 1 PM on. About 1 hour before, a group of students from the high school "Vittorio Veneto", occupied since last week, was attacked by a nazi gang just outside the school premises. When the rumor of the nazi attack arrived at the demonstration called by the Social Centers at 3 PM to protest against fascism and capitalism, 2,000 - 3,000 comrades decided to pay a visit to the rats and give them what they deserve.

Quickly the cops surrounded the area, making it impossible for the demonstration to move towards the nazis. But they forgot to check the subway. After 1 hour of peaceful confrontation -- the comrades willing to pass, the cops forbidding it, it was decided to bypass the police blockade by

taking the subway. Quickly everybody stepped onto the trains, to gather again at a point much closer to the discotheque used by the rats for their meeting.

The move took the cops by surprise and the comrades were able to re-organize the demonstration heading straight ahead towards the nazis, while the law-and-order forces were stuck in the huge traffic jam created by their own blockade.

FIGHT FASCISM



BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

For a moment it really looked like the comrades could reach the nazis and remind them that Milan is not a

good place for them; but alas the police lines guarding the discotheque resisted long enough to allow the other cops to reach the area.

Then the real riot broke out, and it was a mess.

However, despite the super-violent police reaction (possibly they were angered by the subway trick), the comrades resisted for a good 3 hours forcing the nazi rats to stay inside the discotheque protected by the police. And, since the hotel hosting the Commission meeting was quite near, the police was forced to lock the delegates inside as well until the situation cooled off.

It was a glorious day against fascism and capitalism which saw Social Centers citywide for once united. Now our concern must go to the 17 comrades arrested, who are still imprisoned and who will see only tomorrow the judge validating or rejecting the detentions. None of the 20 wounded people taken to the hospitals -- comrades and passers-by beaten by the cops -- is in worrying conditions, but of course the comrades will be prosecuted.

**ANTIFASCISM CAN'T
BE JAILED!!! FREEDOM
FOR THE ARRESTED
COMRADES!!!!**



PALESTINE SOLIDARITY DEMONSTRATION IN OSLO

Saturday November 11th the autonomous house Blitz in Oslo arranged a demonstration of solidarity with the Palestinian people, together with other leftist groups in Oslo. The demonstration went from the central University building to the Israeli Embassy, also passing by the Norwegian Secretary of State/ Foreign Ministry, responsible for the apartheid Oslo Agreement, and the US Embassy.

Outside the Israeli Embassy the Blitz' Noise Brigade played drums, all wearing Palestinian scarves, and the demonstrators began to throw stones and eggs filled with red paint at the embassy, breaking quite a few windows and decorating the embassy with red "blood". The police tried to stop people from venting their anger at Israeli aggression but didn't succeed. Speeches were held and solidarity expressed before demonstrators returned to the Blitz house.

The presence of riot-police outside the embassy was enormous and armed with dogs, horses and vehicles. All this anti-riot-circus followed the 200 demonstrators back to Blitz, and attacked outside the house. However, people fought back and the police were unable to arrest the stone-throwers or to storm the house! A very good fight indeed. Unfortunately plainclothes police managed to arrest two Palestinians on their way home, charged with throwing stones at the embassy, but they are released from custody for the moment.

The fight continues. BLITZ/ AFA Oslo

THE ARMED STRUGGLE AGAINST THE STATE CONTINUES IN GREECE

On Sunday, November 12th three bombing attacks took place against Banks in Athens. A fourth bomb was diffused by police experts. All four bombs were placed by the group "Revolutionary Cores". Bombing attacks against state buildings is a means of struggle commonly used by anarchists in Greece. In the last few weeks several bombing attacks have taken place as expressions of solidarity with imprisoned anarchists N. Maziotis and S. Seisidis.

The Revolutionary Cells have also carried out at-

tacks in recent weeks against branches of Barclays and Citibank.

The organization has claimed responsibility for over 13 bombings over the last 3 years, including the April 1999 bombing of an American owned hotel in protest of NATO air-strikes against Yugoslavia and the planting of an explosive device in the offices of former merchant marine minister Stavros Soumakis. The device was destroyed in a controlled explosion by remote control.

THESSALONIKI ANARCHISTS PAY MEXICAN AMBASSADOR A VISIT

On Monday, November 13th 40 to 50 anarchists entered the university "Macedonia" of Thessaloniki, Greece, where the Mexican ambassador was giving a speech.

The speech concerned the economic wealth of Mexico and the economic aid that can be given by the European Union.

The anarchists entered the building throwing eggs and shouting slogans in favor of the Zapatistas. Very few damages were reported and nobody was injured in the action.



THOUSANDS TAKE TO THE STREETS AGAINST THE SOA IT'S TIME TO MOVE FROM PROTEST TO RESISTANCE

Over ten thousand people braved the constant rain and bitter cold in Fort Benning, Georgia on November 18th and 19th in order to show their opposition to the School of the Americas, a military training camp for Latin American soldiers whose graduates are among the greatest torturers and murderers of Latin America.

The weekend's events, which were organized by SOA Watch and a vast array of organizations, ranging from progressive religious organizations such as Catholic Worker to Refuse and Resist, anti-corporate groups, and anarchists, featured speakers and songs on Saturday, and a funeral procession on Sunday during which over three thousand people entered the Fort Benning army base. Also, in a new addition to the earlier events at Fort Benning, several affinity groups carried out parallel actions on the day of the funeral procession. These included a "die-in" to blockade access to the base, reenactments of army massacres, banner drops, and other actions. All in all over two thousand people were arrested and served with "ban and bar" letters, forbidding them from entering Fort Benning army base for the next five years. Others, such as those who chose to go limp or did not respect the route agreed upon by the march organizers (in unison with the military) are expected to face trial on varied charges.

In the largest of the affinity group actions about 100 people, many from the Freedom Rising affinity group armed with puppets and black bloc anarchists carrying a banner proclaiming, "Abolish Capitalism, Smash the State, For a Free Humanity, For Anarchism", entered the army base after the funeral procession had entered. Once inside the group decided not to respect the pre-established procession route and crossed the median dividing the "in" road to the SOA buildings from the "out" road. At this point the group was advancing in full view of the main procession which was on the "in" road, slightly downhill. Approximately 50 people decided at this point to cross the median and join the alternate march. Eventually a line of military personnel halted the entire group. At this point those willing to be arrested decided to either wait for the MPs to take them or go limp, while others simply walked back across the median to safety. Unfortunately, despite the mass of the crowd below chanting "Solidarity," few people took any sort of action in support of the "Puppetistas." One group did attempt to reclaim the puppets and flags from the MPs, only told that they were being confiscated as "evidence."

While it is great that so many people take to the streets to oppose an institution responsible for as much murder and violence as the School of the

Americas, the Barricada Collective, which was at the protests, feels it is important to make note of several issues that became clear over the weekend of protest.

While a great symbolic action, the tactics and orientation of the SOA Watch reveal several worrisome characteristics. First of all, SOA Watch has not developed any sort of criticism of the SOA beyond opposition to it on moral and religious ground. This obviously included a lot of talk about the evils of the violence that the people of Latin America have suffered at the hands of its graduates. However, when speaking of the Latin American struggles repressed by the Latin American military, it must not be forgotten that most of those struggles took the form of guerrilla warfare and urban street fighting. Those who died at the hands of US backed military dictatorships were by and large not pacifists. At no time was this ever mentioned. The entire weekend was one long attempt to hijack the legacy of Latin American struggles. When the struggle of the people of Chiapas was mentioned, never once was it mentioned that until they organized themselves and took up arms, nobody took notice of them. When the struggle of the people of Colombia was brought up, it was also never mentioned that the only option left to the Colombian progressive movement is the armed struggle, as even electoral ventures have been drowned in blood by the Colombian ruling class.

This whitewashing of history is not the result of ignorance; it serves a very precise purpose for those behind SOA Watch. The fact

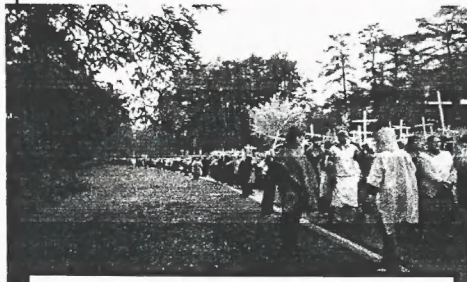
is, in order to appeal to the overwhelmingly hippie, pacifist, religious, white, and liberal reformist crowd in attendance, the SOA must be made to seem as a murdering monster, which it is, which slaughters only innocent hippie, liberal, and reformist pacifists from South and Central America. "God" forbid that these respectable reformers realize that they are actually showing solidarity with people who espouse such ideas as revolution and armed struggle.

All in all, the entire weekend was a festival of reformism and first world privilege. From the collaboration with the military as to what, when, and how to carry out the event, making it more a show than a protest, to the endless discussions over "how people felt" and how important for their conscience it was to have "crossed the line," to the almost one page long paper people were made to read aloud stating that they were committed to not damage property, yell, run, etc, to the business of protestor parking (\$10).

Finally, keeping with the reformist line of the events a great effort was made to pander to the mainstream media. This even included several people associated with SOA Watch publicly distancing themselves from possible "violent elements from outside" that may show up (the Barricada presence at the events heard this personally). Finally, on the day of the procession, as a small Black Bloc was assembling, numbering around twenty-five people (most people evidently chose to head to Cincinnati), a peace-

keeper came to inform people that wearing a mask was a violation of a city ordinance. At this point a member of the Black Bloc said that they were taking that into consideration, but that they would appreciate it if the two undercover policemen which followed the anarchist banner everywhere, who were very quickly spotted despite their masks, also took off their masks. To no avail unfortunately.

Of course, nobody is saying that everybody should adopt the same tactics, far from it, as a variety and unity of tactics is something to be worked towards by all. What we at Barricada object to is the moral authoritarianism which makes itself present ever so often at North American political events. It was particularly saddening in this particular case as the large size of the "target" (SOA property is roughly 25 miles) would have made it very easy for groups with different approaches to resistance to have worked together, and if there was a violent response from the military, nobody not participating in more militant actions would need to be affected. For example, few scenarios could tactically have been more convenient than the road taken by the "Puppetistas" for a battle with



Funeral Procession enters the base

the, at the time weak, MP lines. With thousands of supporters less than half a mile behind, thousands of witnesses to any possible police wrongdoing on the road below, and a forest to disperse into if necessary on all sides.

The military understands only threats, and while groups are working with them, they are not threats. A great example of demonstrators effectively becoming a threat to the military would be what was accomplished the demonstrators who laid siege to the Aviano air base in Italy during last year's war in Yugoslavia. Over one thousand people, protected with body armor and armed with whatever was at hand, cut through the exterior fence and attacked the base for hours, causing extensive damage to military property, as well as receiving international news coverage (the SOA Watch protests, despite the pandering, only made the news in regional newspapers).

Finally, a positive word must be put in for several groups and people present. The IMC which volunteered journalists in case a Black Bloc did materialize to make sure police did not give special treatment to anybody, a peacekeeper who also stayed with anarchists in order to dispel possible rumors that could arise, and finally the "Puppetistas" who marched side by side with Black Bloc anarchists.

Nicolas
Barricada Collective



WHAT NEXT?



US imperialist hypocrisy and double standards have probably reached their peak during these last few weeks. The mass media treated the world to the spectacle of mobs destroying the Yugoslav parliament and attacking the offices of several Yugoslav left wing parties, hailing these events as "a great triumph of democracy" and other such nonsense. Meanwhile, the leader of the "free world," murderer of refugees and bomber of aspirin factories, Bill Clinton laid praise upon himself and fellow war-monger Secretary of state Madeleine Albright (ever notice how eerily physically similar she is to Maggie Thatcher?). We were all supposed to celebrate seeing magazine covers and newspapers with glorious headlines such as "free at last," while Clinton and company claimed that this was proof that the waging of war against a civilian population and the bombing of a country back to the middle ages is in fact the way to "work towards democracy." But since when has the US been interested in democracy?

The answer is, quite simply, never. Those who have doubts can ask the people of Latin America about the US' "democratic values." They will tell you about the US sponsorship of the Contras to fight against the Sandinista Liberation Movement in Nicaragua. Or of the brutal military dictatorships in Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay, who took tens of thousands of lives

and how they were sponsored and trained by the US military. Or better yet, of the CIA sponsorship of strikes and sabotage against the democratically elected President of Chile, Salvador Allende and the references made to Allende's election by at the time Secretary of state Henry Kissinger. Kissinger could not have summed up the US' appreciation of the concept of democracy any better when he said, "I don't see why we should let a country go red just because it's people don't know how to vote." Of course, how often does one hear the argument that, "that was all in the past and a consequence of the cold war, etc, etc."

So let me present you with a more recent example. Last week, as the hoopla about an elected statesman (true, those in power controlled the election, but where does the class in power not do so?) being overthrown by mobs began to die down, two men, Faisal al-Bilooi and Ayish al-Faridia, hijacked a plane headed to Heathrow airport from the Saudi Arabian city of Riyadh. After the hijacked plane landed in Baghdad, with no injuries and no violence of any kind (which is not what can be said of the events in Belgrade), the hijackers stated that they committed the hijacking in order to draw attention to "human rights abuses, corruption, and unemployment" in Saudi Arabia. They also stated that they wanted to be free to choose

their own leaders and that "the time of kings and monarchies is over." One would assume that the US, being the great defender of democracy that it claims to be, would make at least a mild gesture towards these, however unfortunately reformist, freedom fighters. Instead, as Saudi Arabia works to extradite them and hand them a certain death sentence, the penalty for hijacking in Saudi Arabia, the US has remained shockingly quiet.

Why is this? Because the United States is simply not interested in democracy. It is a plundering economic imperialist interested in economic gain, at the expense of people, lives, and yes, even it's own twisted brand of bourgeois democracy. The fact is, Saudi Arabia has natural resources, in this case oil, and allows the US to use place military bases on it's territory, hence, democracy is irrelevant. The same is true of Algeria, Turkey, Colombia, and other such dictatorships (yes, dictatorships, regardless of what sort of mock elections they may have periodically) around the world. Unfortunately for what is left of the Yugoslav federation, it has no such natural resources to offer the US.

In view of this it has to accept "democracy." For when the US and its allies say "democracy" what they mean is neo-liberalism. They mean privatization, which was not occurring in Yugoslavia, and subsequent layoffs. They mean the eating away of basic social services and most importantly they mean the surrendering of a nation's economy and a people's culture to economic imperialism aimed at exploiting them and robbing them of their cultural identity. For the US, freedom and democracy means a McDonalds on every avenue and a policeman on every corner.

Of course, no one will argue that Milosevic was a war criminal (although

no worse than Clinton or Blair) and a tyrant. And we should be the last to condemn "revolutions" and other popular movements. However, one must look at the consequences of such events. The truth remains that Milosevic, despite his many, many negative qualities, represented one of the last bastions of European resistance to the expansion of western neo-liberalism. Now that he is out of power, or almost, the coast is clear for pro-US puppets, such as Kostunica, to open the doors to the rape of Yugoslavia. Indeed, the west wasted no time in announcing aid and investment, which conveniently means the reconstruction of everything NATO bombed into oblivion a year ago.

Revolutions and popular movements are great and posi-

tive events, not to mention the burning of parliaments, but they are not exempt from the political context of the rest of the world. The Yugoslav students and workers who participated in the storming of parliament may have been well intentioned, just as their counterparts who torn down the Berlin wall were. However, just as is the case in the ex-Eastern bloc, they have been fed lies about western "democracy" and what lies ahead is unfortunately likely to be the same thing discovered by those in the ex-Eastern bloc, namely hunger, unemployment, and misery. It is the same people who ten years ago tore down the wall who are now saying that they would not have done it had they known what was to come, and that they are trying to undo their mistake by voting for

the parties of old. It should surprise nobody if this scenario is repeated in Yugoslavia in the years to come. Democracy, real, people's democracy that is, is only appealing on a full stomach. There is no freedom without economic freedom, as they are inseparable. It is only a matter of time before the people of Yugoslavia join the millions of others across the world who have already come to this realization and again choose to do their history as fighters honor by resisting theirs, and the worlds, neo liberal aggressors.

Nicolas, Barricada Collective

THE DAY WILL COME WHEN OUR SILENCE WILL BE MORE POWERFUL THAN THE VOICES YOU ARE SILENCING TODAY -AUGUST SPIES-

RED NOVEMBER, BLACK NOVEMBER.
BLEAK NOVEMBER, BLACK AND RED;
HALLOWED MONTH OF LABOR'S MARTYRS,
LABOR'S HEROES, LABOR'S DEAD.
LABOR'S HOPE AND WRATH AND SORROW-
RED THE PROMISE, BLACK THE THREAT;
WHO ARE WE TO NOT REMEMBER?
WHO ARE WE TO DARE FORGET!

BLACK AND RED THE COLORS BLENDED,
BLACK AND RED THE PLEDGE WE MADE;
RED, UNTIL THE FIGHT IS ENDED,
BLACK, UNTIL THE DEBT IS PAID.
WESLEY EVEREST AND AL. PARSONS
WITH JOE HILL AND ALL THE REST.
WHO ARE WE TO NOT REMEMBER?
WHO ARE WE TO DARE FORGET!

111 YEARS AFTER THE MURDER OF THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS
NEVER FORGIVE, NEVER FORGET
REVENGE, BLOODY REVENGE

BEYOND THE GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION AGAINST CAPITALISM

The following is an article that we have taken the liberty of re-printing. It was originally published in *Workers Solidarity*, the newspaper of the Irish Workers Solidarity Movement. We are running it because, although we feel mass coordinated actions are an essential part of any movement and have proven to be a great success in building the revolutionary movement in the US in the last year, we also feel it is important to not allow our recent successes to overshadow the fact that other aspects of struggle and organization need to be explored as well. We believe this article raises some important points about the issue, and could be of value to all revolutionaries if one simply substitutes "anarchist," with "revolutionary," or "anti-authoritarian."

Beyond the 'Days of action against global capital' Amsterdam, Geneva, Cologne, Seattle, London, Washington, LA, Prague. What do these cities have in common? In the last four years they have been the site of a new phenomenon, the Global Protest. For decades, the organizations that manage capitalism have met to divvy up the world among themselves. For the first time, their role as dealers of poverty and misery has been exposed by thousands of angry protesters. The symbolic value of these protests cannot be under estimated. If only for a brief period of time, a few days here and there, people have come together to say 'Enough!'

Already however, the nature of these demonstrations has changed. Consider the difference between these protests.

Seattle: Thousands of protesters converge on the city. Despite using tear gas and implementing a curfew, the police lose control. The WTO summit is effectively blockaded. The demonstration is broadcast throughout the world media.

Philadelphia: Police arrest 'key activists' off the streets and at gathering centers before the demonstrations start. Bail is set so high that they are not released until after the protests, in

two cases at 1 million dollars!

LA: From the start protesters are surrounded by the police. Police helicopters keep media choppers away. Alternative news sources are shut down.

The protests to date have been enormously successful. The difficulty in organizing such events should not be underestimated. In the last few years networks have been built between people and organizations that span national border. The ability of the alternative media to cover such events, usually through the use of the internet is impressive. Activists have learned new skills and grown in confidence.

However it also seems that these demonstrations are becoming more limited in what they can achieve. As the police wise up to what is happening, more and more the protesters are faced with battling the state on its own turf. Seattle succeeded because surprise was on our side. Unfortunately, we cannot repeat that success. It is time to move the battle on. The Global Protests woke people up, it got them listening. Now we need to organize for the next stage.

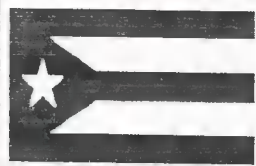
The key word in the last sentence is organize. The global protests were organized by loose coalitions of people, united in

their opposition to globalization, though differing as to what should be put in its place. If they are to go further, instead of protesting against what exists, we must also be fighting for what could be better.

Unfortunately there is no formula to tell us what the next step is. Fortunately however there is a device that will help us on our way. This device is the anarchist method of organization. New tactics emerge from the organization's experience of activity, as it analyses and discusses what has happened, as it considers what can be tried next. Like the days of activity, the anarchist organization is a means to an end. The aim of the global protests is not to overthrow capitalism. Yet clearly capitalism must be overthrown. They represent the first step, protest against the present. The next step is organization for the future.

Aileen O'Carroll
From Workers Solidarity Movement-Ireland





Cuban Embargo? What Cuban Embargo? Orwellian Policy Making in the USA



After nearly four decades of pursuing a cruel campaign of blockade directed at the socialist government of Cuba, the United States has suddenly decided to "ease" the embargo for "humanitarian and democratic reasons". In reality, the United States, under the influence of the Cuban American Lobby and powerful agricultural and drug companies interest groups, is attempting to save face in a global community much opposed to the 40 year old restriction policy. Furthermore it is attempting to quiet down the anti-embargo sentiment in the American public opinion and draw attention away from genuine reform proposals regarding the embargo.

It is only logical. Ever since the 1959 revolution, the United States has followed a vicious war of lies, sabotage and misinformation. Recall JFK and his promise not to invade Cuba. Recall the numerous attempts at Castro's own life. Recall the anti-Castro leaflets dropped from American planes on the island, or even worse, the bombs.

This sudden "change in policy" is in fact not a change in policy but rather an enforcement of the US's harsh restriction on the island. It is a continuation of the economic, political and commercial war that has led to numerous problems for the island. However, socialist Cuba has proven throughout its history that it is a nation with valuable human capital able to endure even the toughest conditions.

Two years ago, a committee proposed a bill that would have truly alleviated the food and medicine sanctions on Cuba. Even after it was passed by Congress and the Senate, the House leadership decided not to ratify it. This year however, partly through the power of the reactionary Cuban-American congressmen (Lincoln Díaz Balart, Ileana Ros-Lethinen and Bob Menéndez), the Agriculture Bill was passed. Added to previous regulations such as the embargo itself, the Helms-Burton Act and the Torricelli Act, such a Bill eliminates food and medicine sanctions to several countries but not Cuba. As a matter of fact, several clauses regarding Cuba's case were added to tighten the restriction. US agricultural and pharmaceutical companies would benefit, but not the Cuban people.

Additionally are the bans on American flights to Cuba and US citizens who wish to visit Cuba. These last bans are a clear blow to the tourist industry of the island. Not surprisingly a march was held in Havana outside the US Interest Office last October. Thousands of Cubans, including Fidel Castro himself, gathered to denounce the US criminal and aggressive policy.

A similar use of double-think by the US policy-makers occurred not too long ago, following the fall of the USSR. Under the pretense of "inviting for a democratic change in Cuba," the previously mentioned Helms-Burton and Torricelli Acts were passed. These documents of legislation, which were dubbed by the mainstream media as a step towards

more cohesive relations between the US and Cuba, harmed and isolated even further the Caribbean nation. It posed economic sanctions on any country which would perform commercial or economic transactions with the island, resulting in a serious hit on Cuba's economic development and a representation in the international community.

One shouldn't be surprised then to find discrepancies between US government statements on recent policy changes towards Cuba (and also Iraq, Yugoslavia, Peru, Indonesia, etc.) and the actual applications and results of such policy changes. Most importantly one should not swallow up the lies and misinformation the so called "savior of democracy" feeds us day after day through the corporate controlled media system.

**Jorge
Barricada Collective**



**Cubans protesting outside US
Interest Office in Havana.**



POLITICAL PRISONERS



SOLIDARITY WITH THOMAS MEYER-FALK

Thomas Meyer-Falk was convicted and incarcerated on August 2nd, 1996 on charges of robbing a bank in order to finance political activities. His release date is set for sometime in 2010, but the fact that he has at no time renounced his political beliefs has prompted authorities to try to ensure he remains jailed beyond that date. As a result of his activities he has also been subjected to "special treatment" from jail authorities. This has included being refused a general studies by mail program because he may "use his knowledge against the

state," constant strip searches, and censorship of his correspondence to prevent his discussing prison conditions or political issues.

An international day of action, organized by the Anarchist Black Cross Dijon and SCALP Dijon, was held on Friday, November 10th in solidarity with the German political prisoner Thomas Meyer-Falk. Events ranging from mass faxings, to flier distribution, to demonstrations were held in Freiburg, Lubeck, and Lorrack in Germany, Innsbruck in Austria, Gent in Belgium, Geneva, Swit-

zerland, and Lyon and Dijon in France.

In Dijon, twenty people occupied the German consulate for the second time in less than one year, forcing the German consul to depart from a "food tasting" in order to hear the demonstrators demands. A banner demanding freedom for Thomas was deployed in front and hundreds of flyers were distributed. After a long discussion the consul agreed to fax a document discussing Tomas Meyer-Falk's situation to the authorities in Germany.

ANTI-FASCISTS ARRESTED IN PARIS

At Midday on November 8th, in Paris, the French police in collaboration with the Spanish Guardia Civil detained seven militants of the Communist Party of Spain (reconstituted) [PCE(r)] under the accusation of being members of the "leadership of GRAPO (October First Revolutionary Armed Groups). The names of the detained are: Manuel Perez Martinez ("Arenas"), General-Secretary of the PCE(r), Isabel Llaquet Baldellou, Fernando Silva Sande, Jose Luis Elipe, Victoria Gomez Mendez, Jose Antonio Peña Quesada, and Rosario Llobregat.

These detentions take place within the Spanish regime's newest offensive, which has as its fundamental objective to prevent, using all means available, the advancement of the struggle against Spanish fascism and imperialism.

The strategy of the Spanish fascist regime is nothing new, since it has been put into practice many times by the previous governments of the monarchy. It is sufficient to remember the dirty war of the Felipe Gonzalez period, through which they tried to find a "short-cut" to liquidate all resistance to the regime in a short space of time. As is known, this strategy ended in failure, resulting in, on the one hand, the strengthening of the revolutionary organization and guerrillas, and, on the other hand, an even greater deepening of the crisis of the regime and the political bankruptcy of the social-fascists of the PSOE.

After the arrival of the Partido Popular in government, it was clear that this counter-revolutionary strategy would be applied, maintaining and deepening some measures of the previous period and adding other new ones. Thus, in addition to the suffocating police pressure which has been seen in the last months and the disproportionate sentences handed out to youths arrested for participating in acts of sabotage, there are now projects to reform the Penal Code and the Juvenile Law (lowering the penal age to 14), along with the re-establishment of life imprisonment for "terrorists".

The objective of all these legal reforms, which count on the support of all the parliamentary parties, consists in eliminating the last remnants of freedom of expression and of association, while at the same time giving carte blanche to the police and special tribunals to repress any demonstration of sympathy or support for the organizations of resistance.

As a necessary complement to these "legal" measures aimed at trying

FIGHT TO BREAK THE ISOLATION



SUPPORT CLASS WAR PRISONERS

to isolate the revolutionary and popular organization, there is no doubt that the regime will attempt to annihilate, using any methods it can, from assassination to arrest of militants wherever they find them (as in the case of Paris), to slow extermination of the political prisoners (the bourgeois propaganda media have already been put under pressure to proclaim that, after these arrests "it will be the prisoners who will take over the leadership of GRAPO", citing among these Francisco Brotons Beneyto, in a clear attempt to confront the great solidarity that is building up in the campaign for his liberation). In addition to all this, there is the criminalization of the solidarity organizations

The "new" principle with respect to previous periods is that all these measures, as happened in the Franco era, are situated with the "legality" of the regime itself, making even clearer still the return of Spanish "democracy" to its fascist origins, which it had never abandoned in the first place, but merely covered up.

**RESIST SPANISH IMPERIALISM
CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE**



THEATER FOR THE REVOLUTION: MARX IN SOHO

"Don't you ever wonder: why is it necessary to declare me dead again and again?"

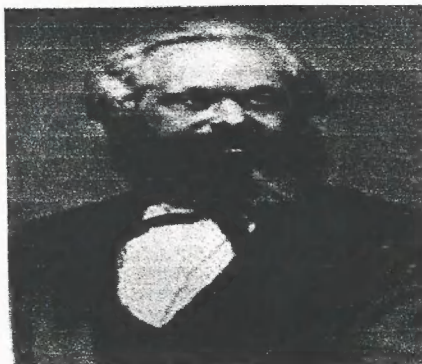
Last month, Howard Zinn's play *Marx in Soho* appeared in Boston as part of a US wide tour. A politically aware crowd of people from all walks of life was present at the Boston Playwright's Theatre to enjoy this ever rarer blend of theater and p r o p a g a n d a .

The premise of the play is that due to his incessant agitation Marx is allowed back to Earth in the year 2000 in order to clear his name. However, due to a bureaucratic error "up there" he is placed in Soho, New York. Needless to say, it is quite a shock when compared to his Soho, London of the 19th century. For an hour and a half Marx is allowed by "the gods" to speak about his memories, the evolution of his ideas, and his thoughts on our present. It was then an immense pleasure to hear Marx's views, as interpreted by Howard Zinn, on everything from his family life, to his conflict with eternal archrival Bakunin, to society today. Unfortunately, Marx's rebirth is just an illusion recreated through art, but one can a l w a y s i m a g i n e . . .

Details about his life were used to illustrate the conditions of the time. After the deaths of several of his children and the poverty that he and his family endured, luckily supported by Engels and always helped by his

loving wife, the play shows Marx's dedication to his intellectual work. Only Marx was able to comprehend his writings, while his wife helped him attain a larger public by making his ideas comprehensible to anyone.

Culmination points in Marx's life are expressed with great devotion, for example, the writing



of *Das Kapital*, the Paris Commune, The Manifesto or his relation with Bakunin. It was appreciated to see the issues and contrast brought up with anarchist ideals. Marx argues, among other things, that Bakunin's mind is that of a lunatic and that he had an unpredictable character. Even though differences were naturally expressed, anarchist ideas were not insulted and well represented by an emotional testimony of the Paris Commune. Beyond historical facts, Zinn did a great job of representing Marx's reaction to m o d e r n s o c i e t y .

The element of humor in the play, especially because it is in

one act (and therefore only Marx on stage) was indispensable. However, even though one is forced to doubt that Marx was a "fun" man to be around, his reactions to places such as New York or the development of Marxist thought were witty and well done. It is when he talks about Marxism's evolution in practice that the humorous tone is lost and his voice becomes critical. A lot of severity was given towards Stalin who stabbed him in the back by killing his own revolutionary comrades (but wasn't the iron fist necessary to overthrow the fascist infestation in the world ?!). However, "Marx" re-affirms his conviction that a global revolution is the only salvation for humanity, and that alone makes one glad to have gone to the theater.

Although, I do not know if the play is still touring the U.S, I recommend you see it if it comes to your area. Otherwise, the book can be ordered through South End Press for 12\$ (the ticket price as well). It was a good way to remember history, and bring in new thoughts through the art of theater. Zinn's scenario and Brian Jones' acting were both insightful and clear making this an excellent and unconventional work!

AH
Barricada Collective

Barricada is being distributed free of charge to those who wish to receive it. Needless to say, this is economically very difficult to do. Therefore, we would like to once again ask those who receive Barricada and believe that it is a project worth helping to make donations, regardless of how small they may be.

We also would like to continue to urge people to contribute News, articles, and information about upcoming events. Remember, we intend for Barricada to be a non-sectarian resource, but unless we receive material from people with views different from ours, it is impossible for our own tendencies to not dominate.

Lastly, we would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their collaboration and support (economic or otherwise): Sabate Anarchist Collective (NEFAC), ARA Columbus, Onward, Modskin, and Kamarade (France).

BARRICADA #2, DECEMBER 2000



THE ADJUSTERS...MUSIC FOR THE REVOLUTION

Once upon a time in music, there was a great deal to be said for bands that had strong political beliefs, and were strong enough to stand by them. While you may not agree, some of the bands that I grew up listening to like The Clash and The Angelic Upstarts took it a step further, and encouraged their fans to make those beliefs a part of their life - to take their truth to the street.

That time is over, and now even openly "political" bands (read: Rage Against The Machine) are a ridiculous farce, preaching "radical" politics while garnishing the coiffers of corporate America. However,

pays tribute to Manley, the socialist prime minister of Jamaica during the 1980's, who is well known for his foundation of the PNP, and who took part in the labor struggle in JA. The B-side to this record is "(You Need A) Weatherman," referring of course to the revolutionary Weather Underground organization of the late 1960's in the US.

Their next release was the stirring "Rebel Jam" record on Black Pearl Records that not only does justice to the Bob Marley classic, but also provides the incredible "Our Town." "Our Town" is a soulful reggae number speak-

ing to Manley, the socialist prime minister of Jamaica during the 1980's, who is well known for his foundation of the PNP, and who took part in the labor struggle in JA. The B-side to this record is "(You Need A) Weatherman," referring of course to the revolutionary Weather Underground organization of the late 1960's in the US.

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The Adjusters make cutting-edge music for a scene (mod, skin, ska, what have you) that is far too often devoid of meaningful po-

the adjusters

crucial R&B

there is still such a thing as underground music here in America.

Coming from the streets of Chicago are the Adjusters, a soul-reggae-jazz-soul powerhouse who pay homage to the causes that we all hold dear. The Adjusters have been together since 1995, and have spent their brief five years producing intelligent and opinionated music that actually makes relevant social commentary within a music scene (read: USA) that is well-known for its stifling of thought within music.

So far, the Adjusters have two full-length records out, both of which speak to the labor struggle, as well as the status of today's music scene. Taking a look at The Adjusters discography gives a great deal of insight into their refreshing political stance.

The Adjusters first release was a 7" in Rosa Luxemburg records called "Michael Manley." The song

ing of life in a factory town, and the perils of union organizing.

This brings us to the Adjuster's full-length releases. The Adjuster's debut CD, "The Politics of Style" is a sonic slab of socialism that'll even get the Marxists dancing. This record defies the boundaries of underground music, mixing the sounds of northern soul, jazz, reggae, R&B, ska and countless other forms into one hell of an incredible political statement/musical masterpiece. The highlights of this record are "Tailor," a homage to Clancy Eccles; a re-working of "Our Town," and one of my personal favorites, "TSKF," AKA "This Sound Kills Fascists."

The follow-up to their debut is the equally powerful "Before The Revolution," featuring the choice cuts "Armstrong," "Loose Roots," and the phenome-

nal "Toehold." (Yes, it's a cover, but that doesn't make it bad...)

Modskin

Barricada Contributor

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Modern Action:

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A CALL FOR A UNITED REVOLUTIONARY PRESENCE AT THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

WE ALREADY KNOW WHO WON... CAPITALISM AND THE RULING CLASS

**TAKE TO THE STREETS OF WASHINGTON AGAINST
CAPITALISM, AGAINST THE STATE, AND AGAINST
THE DEATH MACHINE OF GLOBALIZATION**

CLASS WAR NOW

FOR A CLASSLESS, STATELESS SOCIETY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2001. WASHINGTON D.C. 10 A.M (LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED)

On Saturday, January 20th, 2001 thousands of people from all over the United States will converge on the streets of Washington, D.C to protest against the dictatorship of the corporate class, the circus of US representative "democracy", and the international death machine that is the US government.

The demonstration in Washington the day of the presidential inauguration is a great opportunity to demonstrate our opposition, not only to whoever it is that may eventually win the presidency, but to the entire state system, from the dictatorship of capital, to the sham of representative democracy by making Washington ours during inauguration day and disrupting the ceremony of the ruling class. In the spirit of the mobilizations of the past year, from Seattle, to Washington, to Cincinnati, and everywhere in between, we are calling for revolutionaries to stand together as a bloc and refuse to serve as mere numbers for reformist and authoritarian organizations that don't represent our desires, aims, or aspirations. Instead, we propose a demonstration that not only highlights our opposition to the present order, but also puts forth revolutionary anti-authoritarian alternatives.

Therefore, we are calling for anti-authoritarian revolutionaries to bring their banners and flags, be they black, red, red and black, black and green, or whatever else and gather in Washington at 10 am on Saturday, January 20th, 2001* under the slogan "Class War Now...For a Classless, Stateless Society." We are not calling for any particular tactics, simply for revolutionary anti-authoritarians to come prepared to march on the Presidential Inauguration and for a festival of resistance, struggle, and revolutionary alternatives to the capitalist system.

It will take a lot of work to make this mobilization a success and a show of force for the North American revolutionary movement. If you wish to help make the January 20th initiative succeed, spread the word, organize caravans to Washington, copy and distribute this call, make banners and flags, keep in touch as details of the mobilization become available, contact us to endorse the call, and come to Washington on January 20th ready for a festival of resistance.

**The Barricada Collective
Sabate Anarchist Collective (NEFAC)**

*Location to be announced



POWER FLOWS FROM THE INDUSTRIES OF THE LAND. THE WORKING CLASS MUST ORGANIZE TO TAKE THE INDUSTRIES AND OPERATE THEM IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL.



(CLASS WAR
ANY DAY, ANY TIME, ANYWHERE
EVERY DAY...
TAKE BACK THE WORKPLACE
EVERY NIGHT...
MASK UP AND GIVE THE ENEMY HELL

